

What is claimed is:

1. A method for use in a system enabling a user to share desired information with one or more parties, the user searching an information source remote from the system for the desired information, the system including a repository, the method comprising:

5 storing in the repository the desired information from the information source; the information source being directed to send the desired information to the system via a communications network, the desired information being associated with data identifying the user;

conveying the identifying data to the one or more parties; and

10 allowing access by the one or more parties to the desired information in the repository based on the identifying data.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the repository is accessed through an information assistance service.

15 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the repository is accessible via a telephone.

20 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the repository is accessible via the Internet.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the information source is accessible via the Internet.

25 6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the information source is accessible via a telephone.

7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising allowing the user to access the desired information in the repository.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the user is recognized by the system using an automatic number identification (ANI).

9. The method according to claim 7, wherein the user is recognized by the system
5 using the user's voiceprint.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the system uses the identifying data to recognize the one or more parties when accessing the information in the repository.

10 11. A method for disseminating information using a repository, comprising:
maintaining at the information depot data identifying a user;
receiving information from an information source, the information being associated with
the identifying data;
storing the information in the repository; and
15 releasing the information to selected recipients based on instructions from the user that include the identifying data.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the repository is accessed through an information assistance service.

20 13. The method according to claim 11, wherein the repository is accessible via a telephone.

14. The method according to claim 11, wherein the repository is accessible via the
25 Internet.

15. The method according to claim 11, wherein the information source is accessible via the Internet.

16. The method according to claim 11, wherein the information source is accessible via a telephone.

17. The method according to claim 11, further comprising using the identifying data 5 to recognize the user when the user accesses the information at the repository.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the user is recognized using automatic number identification (ANI).

10 19. The method according to claim 17, wherein the user is recognized using the user's voiceprint.

20. The method according to claim 11, further comprising using the identifying data to recognize the recipients when accessing the information at the repository.

15 21. A system for disseminating information using an repository, comprising:
a gateway for maintaining data identifying a user;
an interface for receiving information from an information source, the information being associated with the identifying data; and
20 a database for storing the information in the repository,
wherein the information is released to selected recipients based on instructions from the user that include the identifying data.

25 22. The system according to claim 21, wherein the repository is accessed through an information assistance service.

23. The system according to claim 21, wherein the repository is accessible via a telephone.

24. The system according to claim 21, wherein the repository is accessible via the Internet.

25. The system according to claim 21, wherein the information source is accessible
5 via the Internet.

26. The system according to claim 21, wherein the information source is accessible
via a telephone.

10 27. The system according to claim 21, wherein the identifying data is used to
recognize the user when accessing the information at the repository.

28. The system according to claim 27, wherein the user is recognized using automatic
number identification (ANI).

15 29. The system according to claim 27, wherein the user is recognized using the user's
voiceprint.

30. The system according to claim 21, wherein the identifying data is used to
20 recognize the recipients when accessing the information at the repository.